

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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## SURPLUS LIVE BUFFALO SALES TO BE HELD AT TWO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Sales of 110 surplus live buffalo (the American bison) will be held at two national wildlife refuges, the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service announced today. Both herds are being reduced to the carrying capacity of the ranges they graze.

Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge near Valentine, Neb., will auction 45 bison on Oct. 4. Bidding will start at \$280 per animal.

National Bison Range at Moiese, Mont., is disposing of 65 animals through sealed bids of at least \$200, accepted until Sept. 7.

Both sales involve mostly long yearlings and two-year-olds. No buffalo meat will be available.

The annual sale of buffalo and buffalo meat will not be held this year at Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge near Cache, Okla., because the present herd there has been brought in balance with existing range conditions.

Persons desiring additional information on the sales should write to the Refuge Manager, Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge, Hidden Timber Route, Valentine, Neb. 69201; or Refuge Manager, National Bison Range, Moiese, Mont. 59824.

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